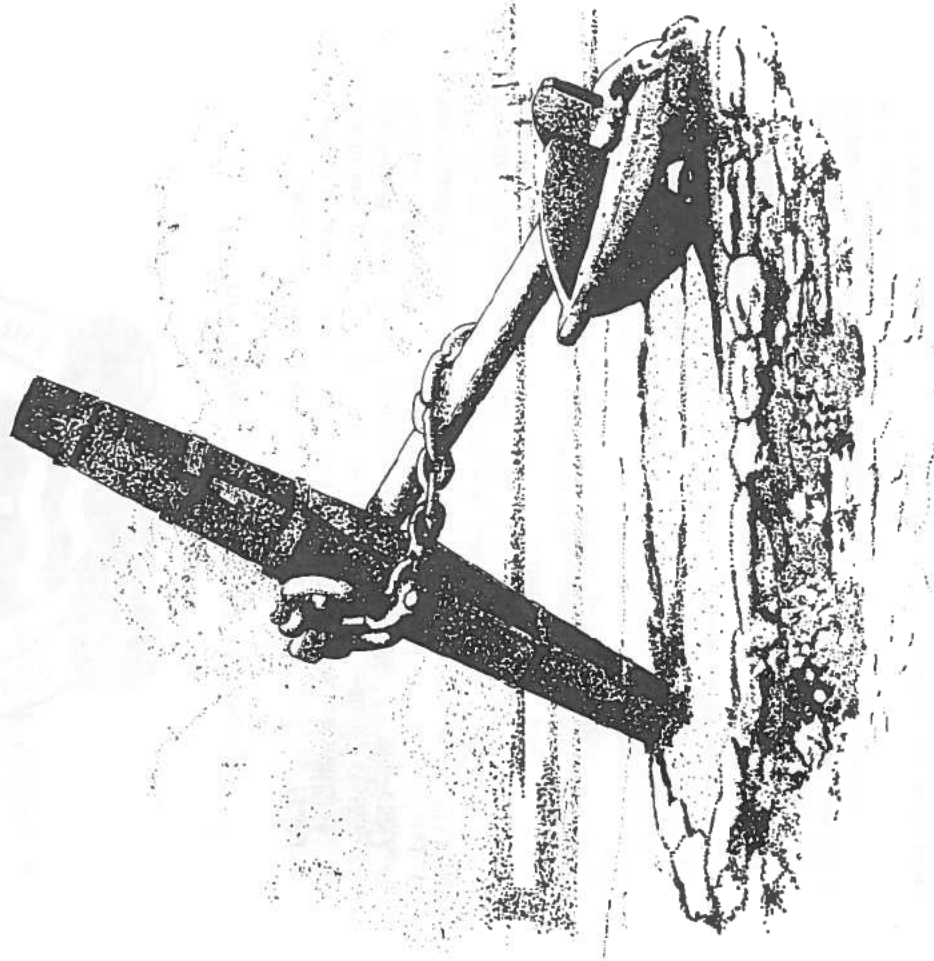




Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island

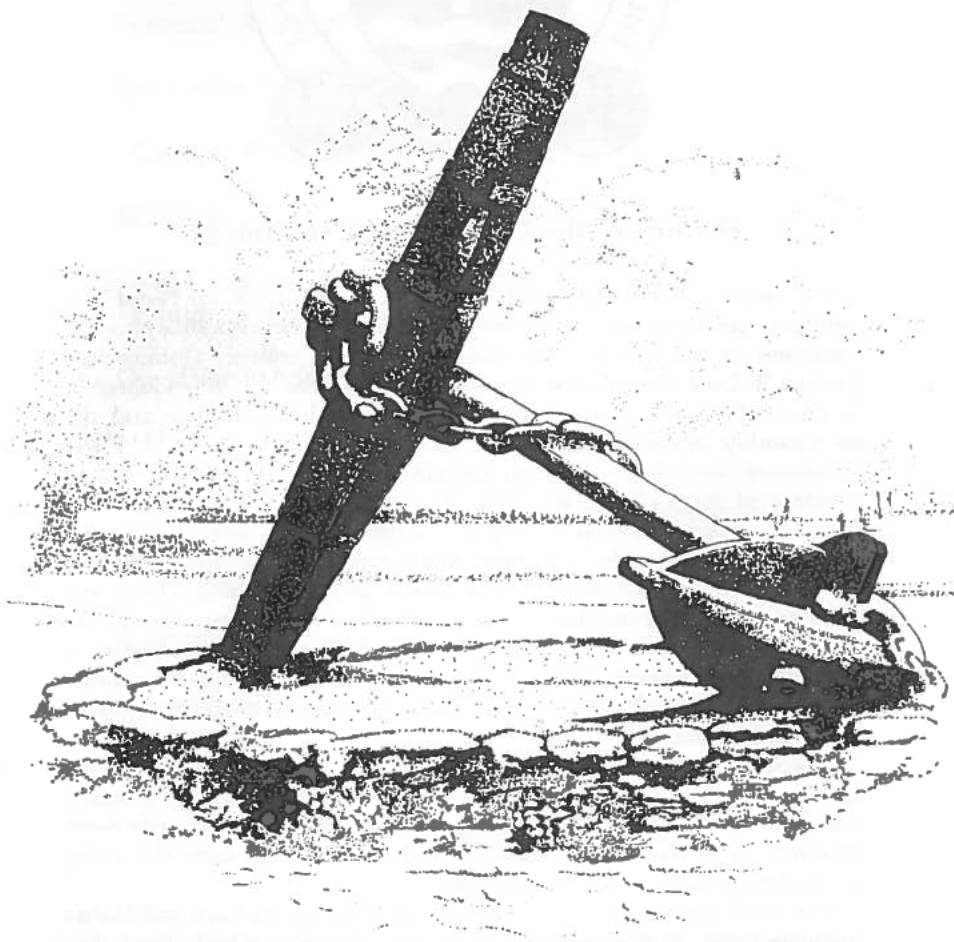


GRADUATION EXERCISE

10 MARCH 1993



Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island



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## History of the U.S. Naval War College

Founded in Newport, Rhode Island on October 6, 1884, the Naval War College is the oldest war college in the nation, and the first military service institution in the world to be designated a war college. Commodore Stephen B. Luce was the first president and organized the War College as "a place of original research on all questions relating to war and the statesmanship connected with war, or the prevention of war." These foundations were built upon by Captain Alfred Thayer Mahan, second president of the College, who had originally been selected by Luce to initiate the course in Naval History. Of all the men who were to influence the institution in its early years, none was to have a more profound impact. Mahan's views deeply affected such leaders as Henry Cabot Lodge and Theodore Roosevelt and through them and others helped shape the United States' destiny at the turn of the century. Mahan's writings, published as *The Influence of Seapower Upon History, 1660-1783*, gained him worldwide acclaim and established the Naval War College as an internationally respected institution.

Functioning continuously since 1884, except for brief periods during the Spanish-American War and World War I, the War College numbers among its graduates such distinguished naval officers as Admirals Sims, Spruance, King, Nimitz, and Halsey, in addition to many others who today are holding prominent military positions.

The work begun more than one hundred years ago by Luce and Mahan continues today. As graduates well know, the curriculum is both demanding and rewarding. For the military professional, the unique education provided by the Naval War College is unrivaled. In recognition of the academic rigor and educational excellence of its program, the Naval War College was accredited in 1991 by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges to award a Master of Arts Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

## PROGRAM

— Music by Navy Band

— Student Procession

— Arrival of Official Party\*

— National Anthem\*

— Invocation\*

Captain [REDACTED] CHC, U.S. Navy

— Welcome

Rear Admiral Joseph C. Strasser, U.S. Navy  
President, Naval War College

— Graduation Address

Vice Admiral William A. Owens, U.S. Navy  
Deputy Chief of Naval Operations  
Resources, Warfare Requirements and Assessments

— Presentation of Diplomas

— Remarks

Rear Admiral Joseph C. Strasser, U.S. Navy

— Benediction\*

Captain [REDACTED] CHC, U.S. Navy

\*Guests please stand



**Rear Admiral Joseph C. Strasser, USN  
President, Naval War College**

Rear Admiral Joseph Charles Strasser was born in Camden, New Jersey on 3 September 1940. He graduated from the Naval Academy and was commissioned an Ensign in June 1963. While at the Naval Academy, he took part in an exchange program between the United States and Chilean Naval Academies.

Admiral Strasser's initial assignment following graduation was as an exchange officer with the Argentine Navy, serving aboard the FRAGATA ARA LIBERTAD. In January 1964, he reported aboard USS BUCK (DD 761) where he served as Combat Information Center Officer and Operations Officer until August 1966. From September 1966 until May 1968, he was assigned as Aide and Flag Lieutenant to Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Flotilla 9 and Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Group Seventh Fleet.

In July 1968, Admiral Strasser entered the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, where he remained until June 1971. He earned Master's Degrees in International Relations and in International Law and Diplomacy, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science. In 1971-1972, he attended the Command and Staff Course here at the Naval War College.

From September 1972 to April 1974, Admiral Strasser served as Executive Officer of USS MEYERKORD (FF 1058) in San Diego, California. Upon completion of that tour, he was assigned for three years to the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations as a member of the Strategic Action Group within the Strategy, Plans and Policy Division. He returned to San Diego to command USS O'CALLAHAN (FF 1051) from October 1977 to October 1979. The following month, he was again assigned to the Strategy, Plans and Policy Division.

From August 1981 to 1983, Admiral Strasser was stationed at the U.S. Naval Academy as Fifth Battalion Officer and Officer in Charge of the Fourth Class Regiment. In September 1983, he became Executive Assistant and Senior Aide to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command—a post he held until May 1985 when he detached to report as Commander, Destroyer Squadron 35.

In September 1986, Admiral Strasser assumed the position of Executive Assistant to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. In January 1987, he was selected for promotion to Rear Admiral and departed to assume command of Cruiser-Destroyer Group 3 on 24 September 1988. On 17 July 1990, he became the 45th President of the Naval War College.

He is married to the former Barbara Anne Wagner of Camden, New Jersey. They have four children: Patricia, Joseph Jr., Andrew, and Mary Kathryn.



**Vice Admiral William A. Owens, USN  
Deputy Chief of Naval Operations  
Resources, Warfare Requirements and Assessments (N-8)**

Vice Admiral William Arthur Owens entered the nuclear submarine program in 1962. He has served in four strategic nuclear powered submarines and three nuclear attack submarines, including tours as Commanding Officer, USS SAM HOUSTON (SSBN 609) and USS CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI (SSN 705). He has also commanded Submarine Squadron FOUR and Submarine Group SIX. He has served as a member of the U.S. Navy's first Strategic Studies Group, as Executive Assistant to the Vice Chief of Naval Operations, and as Director Office of Program Appraisal in the Office of the Secretary of the Navy. In 1987, he became the first director of the U.S. Navy's Strategic Think Tank (now Strategic Planning and Analysis Group). Vice Admiral Owens served as the Senior Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense from July 1988 to August 1990. He was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as a Vice Admiral on August 4, 1990. He commanded the U.S. Sixth Fleet and NATO's Naval Striking and Support Forces Southern Europe from November 2, 1990 to July 9, 1992. In July 1992, he became the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Resources, Warfare Requirements and Assessments (N-8).

Vice Admiral Owens was born in Bismarck, North Dakota on May 8, 1940. He is a 1962 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. He holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from Oxford University, Oxford, England and a Masters Degree in Management from The George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

Vice Admiral Owens and his wife, Monika, have one son, Todd, a Midshipman at the U.S. Naval Academy.



## COLLEGE OF NAVAL COMMAND AND STAFF

[illegible]





## UNITED STATES NAVAL WAR COLLEGE COAT OF ARMS

*The wavy white and blue bars at the bottom of the shield represent water. The trident rising from it symbolizes mastery of naval activities. The three tines of the trident allude to an understanding of naval warfare at sea, in the air, and on land. The pilot wheel alludes to the mission of the Naval War College, education in naval warfare. The eight spokes refer to honor, duty, leadership, command, strategy, tactics, logistics, and weapons. The laurel wreath is for achievement of the mission. The motto is "Victory Through Sea Power."*